

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended); A handbag comprising:

a frame comprising:

(a) a bottom panel;

(b) a front section connected to the bottom panel, said front section having at least one open area;

(c) a back section connected to the bottom panel, said back section having at least one open area;

(d) two side sections, each connected to the bottom panel and to the front and back sections; and

(e) ~~at least one handle~~ two handles connected to the frame for carrying the handbag; and

at least one insert comprising:

(a) a bottom panel; and

(b) at least two side walls that are connected to the bottom panel and have closed sides, such as to create a compartment with a top opening, wherein said top opening is closeable,

wherein said insert has a length, width and height that is similar to the length, width and height of the frame, such that the insert fits snugly within the frame, and wherein a portion of the insert is connectable to a portion of the frame to keep the insert within the frame during use; and wherein the front and back sections consist of narrow bands that extend along a bottom side of the front and back sections, and two vertical straps that extend up from the narrow bands, said vertical straps connecting with the handles of the handbag, and wherein the straps are connected to the handles via buckles.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The handbag according to claim 1 wherein the open areas of the front and back sections are rectangular cutouts such that the front and back ~~areas~~ sections consists of narrow strips along bottom and side areas of the front and back sections.

Claim 3 (Original): The handbag according to claim 1, wherein the frame is constructed of a stiff material that retains its shape.

Claim 4 (Original): The handbag according to claim 3, wherein the material is reinforced leather.

Claim 5 (Original): The handbag according to claim 1, wherein the insert is formed of a different material than the frame.

Claim 6 (Original): The handbag according to claim 5, wherein the material is selected from the group consisting of leather, suede, plastic, silk, canvas, velvet, or other natural or synthetic fabrics.

7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The handbag according to claim 7 1, wherein the side sections extend only partially up the height of the handbag.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~The handbag according to claim 7~~ A handbag comprising:

a frame comprising:

(a) a bottom panel;

(b) a front section connected to the bottom panel,

said front section having at least one open area;

(c) a back section connected to the bottom panel,  
said back section having at least one open area;

(d) two side sections, each connected to the  
bottom panel and to the front and back sections; and

(e) two handles connected to the frame for  
carrying the handbag; and

at least one insert comprising:

(a) a bottom panel; and

(b) at least two side walls that are connected to  
the bottom panel and have closed sides, such as to create a  
compartment with a top opening, wherein said top opening is  
closeable,

wherein said insert has a length, width and height that  
is similar to the length, width and height of the frame, such  
that the insert fits snugly within the frame, and wherein a  
portion of the insert is connectable to a portion of the frame to  
keep the insert within the frame during use; and wherein the  
front and back sections consist of narrow bands that extend along  
a bottom side of the front and back sections, and two vertical  
straps that extend up from the narrow bands, said vertical straps  
connecting with the handles of the handbag, wherein the insert  
has two loops on each of the ~~front and rear sides~~ side walls,  
such that when the insert is placed within the frame, the handles

are threaded through the loops before being connected to the straps, so that the insert is securely connected to the frame.

Claim 11 (Original): The handbag according to claim 10, wherein the loops are located along a top edge of the insert.

Claim 12 (Original): The handbag according to claim 1, wherein the insert is closeable via a flap that covers the openable top of the insert.